



Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Visit our Web site at: agr.wa.gov

Sign up by March 24 for pesticide disposal in Yakima and Othello ***Pesticide disposal events planned for early May***

OLYMPIA – The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is sponsoring pesticide disposal events in Yakima and Othello in early May. The Yakima event is on May 3 and 4, while the waste pesticide collection near Othello will be on May 6.

To participate, contact WSDA by March 24. This will allow WSDA time to respond to any requested farm site assistance and plan the projects for an efficient, safe collection.

“We usually see a significant amount of pesticides being turned in for proper disposal whenever we hold collection events at Yakima or Othello,” said program coordinator Joe Hoffman.

Statewide, participants turned over 167,000 pounds of unwanted pesticides to WSDA last year with the largest amount—some 47,000 pounds—collected from 112 customers at events in Yakima County.

WSDA encourages farmers, businesses, residents and landowners to inspect their storage sheds, barns, shops and garages and look for agricultural and commercial-grade pesticide products that are no longer needed or wanted.

Agricultural and commercial-grade pesticide products accepted for disposal include insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides and most chemicals that kill, repel or prevent unwanted pests. Customers transport unwanted pesticides to the local collection site where WSDA takes possession. A hazardous waste company works with WSDA at the collection site to segregate and package the pesticides for safe, legal transportation and disposal.

Through this program, more than 2.3 million pounds of waste pesticide products have been collected and properly disposed of since 1988. WSDA also regulates the registration, sale and use of pesticides.

Customers will receive supplies necessary to protect broken or leaky containers to ensure safe transportation to the collection site, as well as directions to the site, hours of operation and transportation documents. Customer names do not appear on any retained documents. Upon request, WSDA will provide free assistance at a customer’s property to help inventory unwanted pesticides and package leaky containers. To sign up, call (360) 902-2056, (877) 301-4555 (toll free) or send an e-mail to wastepesticide@agr.wa.gov.

Empty pesticide containers, fertilizers, motor oil and household hazardous waste are not accepted for disposal by WSDA’s program. Contact your local solid waste program for assistance with these other items.

For more information, contact the Waste Pesticide Program, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42589, Olympia, WA 98504-2589 or visit the WSDA Web site at agr.wa.gov and click on “Pesticides and Fertilizers.”

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